



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 142

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1996

No. 10

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 25, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable CHARLES H. TAYLOR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Among all the gifts, O gracious God, we treasure the gift of peace—in our hearts and in the world. On this day we remember with appreciation and gratitude those men and women of our armed services who seek by their skill and dedication to contribute to stability and security among those who have been at enmity. We earnestly pray that they and their families will be sustained under the shelter of Your grace and upheld by our thoughts and prayers. May the duty and honor of serving You and their country ever enable them to take pride in their calling and make them faithful in Your service. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PALLONE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1494. An act to provide an extension for fiscal year 1996 for certain programs administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will receive ten 1-minutes per side.

STATE OF THE UNION ANALYSIS ON TARGET

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the pregame analysis about Tuesday night's State of the Union Address was completely on target. All the pundits and talking heads agreed that President Clinton would come to Capitol Hill and make a centrist-sounding, middle-of-the-road, warm and fuzzy speech. This time the pundits got it right. The President was his usual split-the-difference self: not too liberal, not too conservative.

But there are things that even he missed. Like reality. He said that the era of big government was over. Well, he is right. But not because of anything Bill Clinton has done. In fact, the President has become big government's little buddy. Just this month he vetoed the first major overhaul of the welfare state in a generation. And last year he vetoed the first balanced budget to reach a President's desk since 1969.

Mr. Speaker, if this truly is the end of big government, it is only because Republicans in Congress have had the courage to stop Washington liberalism and say "no" to Washington spending.

CALL FOR A CLEAN DEBT CEILING

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, we are getting perilously close to default. When I listen to some of the comments that are being made by Speaker GINGRICH and the Republican leadership about the debt ceiling and when we are going to bring up a clean debt ceiling, or whether we even will, I get very concerned.

Yesterday I listened to the Speaker, and he said that the debt ceiling or the possibility of bringing up extension of the debt ceiling was going to be linked in some way to a budget agreement, or further action on other legislation before this House. I think that is the wrong way to go.

President Clinton said very emphatically in his State of the Union Address that we should have a clean debt ceiling and we should not wait around much longer to do it. Already it is a possibility that after today we will not be in session either next week or for a few weeks thereafter, and so far I have heard no statement by the Republican leadership that they are going to bring up a clean debt ceiling bill to extend

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H839